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Energy Trust launches competitive selection for Residential program management and delivery contracts

Bidders required to integrate contracting diversity

PORTLAND, Ore. — April 13, 2022 — Energy Trust of Oregon has released a request for proposals (RFP) for management of its Residential program, which works with energy program implementers, new home builders, retailers, distributors and others to support energy-efficient new home construction and deliver energy efficiency and solar improvements to residential utility customers.

Energy Trust will host a pre-bid informational webinar for potential bidders on April 26, 2022, which will include time for questions and answers. Bidders are encouraged to read the RFP in full and submit questions to Energy Trust by April 20, at residentialsolicitations@energytrust.org. The RFP and webinar registration information are posted on the Energy Trust website at www.energytrust.org/rfp. Proposals will be due by 5 p.m. Pacific Time, June 8, 2022.

Following a competitive process, Energy Trust will execute one or more contracts for management and delivery of Residential offers throughout Oregon and Southwest Washington. Energy Trust will negotiate with the selected contractor(s) for a two-year agreement with three optional one-year extensions. The contract(s) will include program management; technical and engineering support; marketing; customer and contractor outreach; operations, including contact center, incentive processing and reporting; and additional services identified in the RFP. The number and structure of contracts will be determined based on selected bidders' expertise and ability to meet Residential program goals. Transition work will begin in fall 2022, and a new annual contract, or contracts, will go into effect on January 1, 2023.

This RFP seeks to increase diversity among the implementation team and to better serve diverse, low- to moderate-income and rural customers whom Energy Trust has not successfully served in the past. Firms submitting proposals must demonstrate experience in designing equitable and inclusive programs and encouraging a diverse, equitable and inclusive workplace and business environment. Energy Trust will require a minimum of 20% of the value of each resulting contract (not including incentive budgets) to be delivered by minority-owned, womenowned, service-disabled veteran-owned, and emerging small business enterprises that are certified by Oregon's Certification Office for Business Inclusion and Diversity (COBID), unless the primary bidder is COBID-certified. Firms may be in the certification process when submitting a proposal, but they must be certified by the time Energy Trust finalizes its decisions.

Energy Trust offers services and cash incentives for residential customers and new home verifiers to support efficient new home construction, energy-efficient upgrades and solar for existing homes. From 2002 through the end of 2020, Energy Trust served 685,000 Oregon households through its Residential program, helping participants save 1,620 average

megawatts and 231 million annual therms – equivalent to keeping 9.1 million tons of carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere. During this time, participating residential customers saved \$1.8 billion on their energy bills.

Energy Trust of Oregon is an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to helping utility customers and communities benefit from saving energy and generating renewable power. Our services, cash incentives and energy solutions have helped participating customers of Portland General Electric, Pacific Power, NW Natural, Cascade Natural Gas and Avista save \$4.6 billion on energy bills. Our work helps keep energy costs as low as possible, creates jobs and builds a sustainable energy future. Learn more at www.energytrust.org or call 1-866-368-7878.

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